

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6635
BILL NUMBER: HB 1118

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 20, 2003
BILL AMENDED: Feb 19, 2003

SUBJECT: Coyote Bounty.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Grubb
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
☒ **DEDICATED**
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill specifies that a person who owns, rents, or leases land may take coyotes on the land using a firearm, a bow and arrow, a crossbow, or a trap. The bill provides that a person who owns, rents, or leases land may allow or employ another person to take coyotes on the land at any time.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: (Revised) State hunting and trapping license revenues may decrease. This bill adds two provisions. The bill allows a person that owns, rents, or leases land to take coyotes at anytime. In addition, the bill allows a person who owns, rents, or leases land to allow or employ another person to take coyotes on the land at anytime. This provision will allow a person to hunt or trap coyotes at any time, and to profit from the endeavor, without having to pay for a hunting or trapping license.

Background Information: Coyotes are considered a furbearer and regulated by the Department of Natural Resources. Department regulations allow for both hunting and trapping of coyotes from October 15, 2002, through January 31, 2003, (for trapping) and through February 28, 2003 (for hunting). Coyotes may be called with mouth or hand-operated calls, or with the use of recorded calls. Spotlights may be used to take coyotes. In addition, there are no restrictions on hunting hours or firearms that may be used to take coyotes. This bill relegates coyotes to varment status and removes any Department oversight regarding length of season or bag limit.

The Department indicates that the coyote population is currently stable. The Department uses two indices in developing population trend data for coyotes. The Department tracks the number of coyote pelts purchased by licensed fur buyers and the number of coyotes seen by archers per 1,000 hours of observation. The number of pelts purchased is subject to fluctuation due to pelt prices.

Table 1: Coyote Population Index

Year	Number of Coyote Pelts Purchased
2000-2001	1,713
1999-2000	1,019
1998-1999	940
1997-1998	1,763
1996-1997	2,082
1995-1996	2,351
1994-1995	2,150
Average	1,716

Table 2: Coyote Population Index

Year	Coyotes Seen by Archers*
2000	20
1999	25.9
1998	24.9
1997	19.9
1996	18.8
1995	21.5
1994	14.6
Average	20.8

* Number of animals seen by archery deer hunters per thousand hours of observation

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Dan Mathis, Legislative Liaison, Department of Natural Resources, 317-233-6904

Fiscal Analyst: Michael Molnar, 317-232-9559